

LPPD hosts rape defense course

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Just one month ago, La Porte police made the public announcement that four agency members had obtained training and certification in the instruction of Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) system techniques. Now, with the handful of available instructors at the ready, LPPD has announced to area residents that, during the month of October, the police department will offer its first public RAD training.

Four three-hour days of RAD coursework are scheduled for two weeks in a row, on Oct. 10, 11th, 17, and 18, from 6 – 9 p.m., with each daily class building on the former. The course days are intentionally spread out, as the program is both physically and mentally intensive. LPPD's RAD instructors are committed to making the course dates fun and enjoyable, as well as genuinely educational.

For those unfamiliar with the RAD system, it's a program of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques. RAD is a comprehensive course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction, and avoidance, while progressing toward the basics of actual hands-on defense training.

"It is important, however, that participants understand that RAD is not a martial arts program," John Krueger, of the LPPD, said. "The class, taught by LPPD's certified RAD instructors, begins with classroom-based orientation where workbooks and reference manuals lay the course foundation.

During this initial phase, the entire physical defense program is outlined for both personal reference and continuous individual growth. Later, the physical techniques are discussed, and eventually encompass a series of comprehensive hands-on exercises."

The RAD training is open solely to women ages 13 and up; younger ladies under the age of 18 must attend class with their mother or legal female guardian.

Krueger said the growing and wide-spread acceptance of the system has been observed as a result of the ease, simplicity, and effectiveness of its tactics, combined with its supportive research, legal defensibility, and unique teaching methodology.

"Essentially, La Porte's RAD program is dedicated to teaching women defensive concepts and techniques against various types of assault, by utilizing easy, effective, and proven self-defense tactics," Krueger said. "This system of realistic defense will provide women with the knowledge to make an educated decision about resistance."

La Porte's initial RAD program will be open to a total of 10 students, and registration will be on a first come basis. The 4-Day program is free and all manuals and documents will be provided to the students. For more information on the RAD program, including registration information, please contact La Porte Officer Matt Parsons at 281-604-6687, or via email at: parsonsm@laportetx.gov.